Page 8 of 9

Amendment and Response

Serial No.: 09/551,706 Confirmation No.: 2678 Filed: 18 April 2000

For: APPARATUS AND METHODS FOR PACKAGING AND STORING MOISTURE-SENSITIVE PRODUCTS

IN RESEALABLE POUCHES

Remarks

The Office Action of 19 March 2004 has been received and reviewed. Prior to appeal, the pending claims in this application were claims 1-2, 4-23, 25-32, 38-46, and 61-62. With the Examiner's cancellation of claims 25-27, 38-42, 44-46 and 62, the cancellation herein of claims 4, 28-32, and 43, and the addition of claims 63-68, the pending claims are claims 1-2, 5-23, 61, and 63-68. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested for at least the reasons set forth below.

Decision on Appeal

Pursuant to the decision of the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences, the Examiner canceled claims 25-27, 38-42, 44-46, and 62. As a result of the Board's decision, Applicants have herein additionally canceled claims 4, 28-32, and 43, and recitations of these claims are now presented in independent form (pursuant to MPEP 1214.06) in new claims 63-67 (corresponding to claims 28-32) and claim 68 (corresponding to claim 43).

Applicants submit that newly-presented claims 63-68 are allowable and indication of the same is respectfully requested.

Claim 4 has been canceled due to the allowance of claim 61.

Inventorship

As a result of the amendments made during prosecution of this application, fewer than all of the currently named inventors are the actual inventors of the invention now being claimed. It is therefore respectfully requested that inventorship in this application be corrected, as identified in the accompanying "Amendment And Request To Correct Inventorship Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.48(b)," by DELETING Melvin Y. Wong.

Page 9 of 9

Amendment and Response

Serial No.: 09/551,706 Confirmation No.: 2678 Filed: 18 April 2000

For: APPARATUS AND METHODS FOR PACKAGING AND STORING MOISTURE-SENSITIVE PRODUCTS

IN RESEALABLE POUCHES

Summary

It is submitted that pending claims 1, 2, 5-23, 61, and 63-68 are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' Representatives, at the below-listed telephone number, if it is believed that prosecution of this application may be assisted thereby.

> Respectfully submitted for F. Andrew UBEL et al.

 $\mathbf{B}_{\mathbf{y}}$ Mueting, Raasch & Gebhardt, P.A. P.O. Box 581415 Minneapolis, MN 55458-1415 Phone: (612) 305-1220

Date

Matthew W. Adams

Reg. No. 43,459

Direct Dial (612)305-1227

Facsimile: (612) 305-1228

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR \$1.8:

The undersigned hereby certifies that the Transmittal Letter and the paper(s), as described hereinabove, are being transmitted by facsimile in accordance with 37 CFR §1.6(d) to the Patent and Trademark Office, addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 19th day of April, 2004, at 1:53 p.m. (Central Time).

By: Rachel Gazlandi - Chalan